

ENERGY STAR®

Energy-Efficient Choices for Businesses and Consumers

ENERGY STAR® Partners Make the Difference



Saving Energy and Money

ENERGY STAR® - a national program jointly run by the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - helps businesses and consumers identify and use energy efficient products and practices to save energy, save money and help protect the environment. ENERGY STAR is committed to improving the energy efficiency of products while maintaining or surpassing quality standards and enhancing features and performance.

ENERGY STAR, which is recognized by over 60% of U.S. consumers, is best known as a product label that designates energy-efficient products. In addition, ENERGY STAR promotes systems-based or “whole-building” efficiency in new and existing homes and commercial buildings.

Partnering for Success

ENERGY STAR is one of the government’s most successful voluntary

public/private partnerships. The program relies on national and regional partners, including retailers, manufacturers, and utilities to promote energy efficiency and educate consumers about how to make smart energy choices.

The ENERGY STAR partner network includes more than 8,000 public- and private sector organizations that actively work to promote energy efficiency. DOE has forged successful partnerships with more than 800 retailers that operate over 20,000 storefronts and reach millions of customers a week as well as all the major manufacturers of appliances, windows and compact fluorescent lamps. In addition, DOE partners with more than 450 utilities and regional organizations, known as “energy efficiency program sponsors”, that serve 75 million households and offer promotions and incentives to consumers of ENERGY STAR products. This network of providers has spent \$1 billion to date to promote ENERGY STAR to

consumers through common language, common efficiency specifications, and common activities. Every year, DOE and EPA recognize the accomplishments of program partners with ENERGY STAR awards.

ENERGY STAR Qualified Products

The government-backed ENERGY STAR label appears on products in more than 40 categories. DOE is responsible for clothes washers, refrigerators, refrigerator-freezers, dishwashers, room air conditioners, windows, doors, and skylights, and compact fluorescent lamps. DOE establishes energy efficiency criteria in consultation with manufacturers and other partners, and works with manufacturers to maintain an official list of qualified products. In general, products that have earned the ENERGY STAR label are 10 to 30 percent more energy efficient than standard models. DOE updates efficiency criteria regularly to

ensure the label is associated with only the most efficient products.

Home Performance

In addition to promoting energy efficient appliance and consumer products, DOE and EPA work with energy efficiency program sponsors and home improvement contractors to promote whole-home efficiency upgrades in existing homes. By training contractors and working closely with retailers, ENERGY STAR is making it easier for homeowners to improve the overall efficiency of their homes with comprehensive energy audits and effective improvements. Twelve partners around the country currently operate Home Performance programs.

Consumer Outreach

Each year DOE organizes a series of national promotions for ENERGY STAR qualified appliances. Interested manufacturers, retailers, utilities and other partners coordinate marketing activities during each campaign's timeframe, using common messages and creative materials developed by DOE. In the fall, DOE and EPA conduct the annual "Change a Light, Change the World" campaign, designed to increase consumer awareness about ENERGY STAR qualified lights and fixtures.

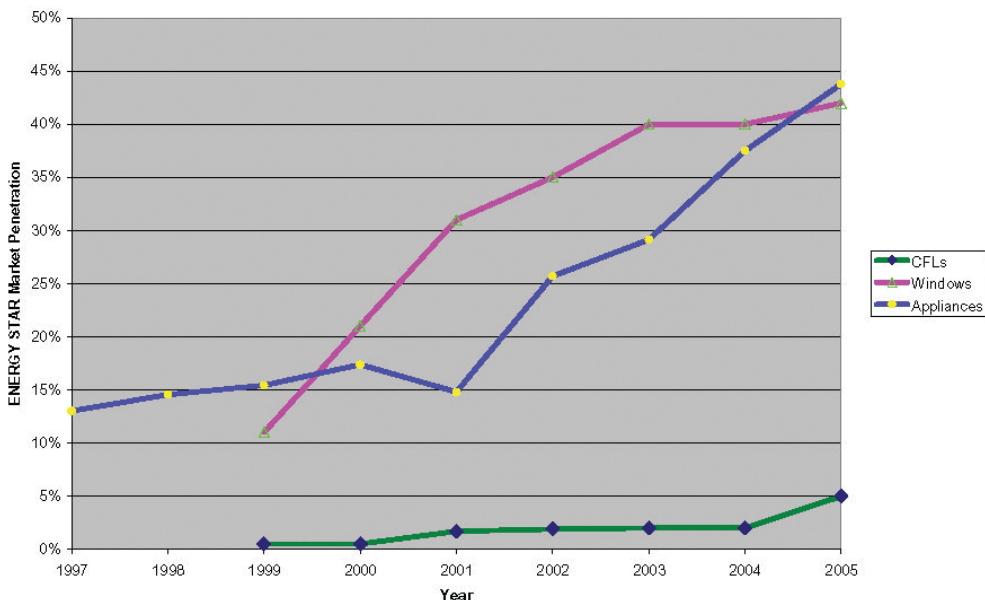
Making an Impact

Since the inception of the ENERGY STAR program, the market share of efficient products has increased dramatically resulting in significant energy savings. In 2005 alone, in collaboration with its partners, ENERGY STAR helped consumers save 150 billion kilowatt hours of electricity – the equivalent to \$12 billion on electric bills and enough energy to power every household in a city the size of Dallas, Texas for more than 30 years.



A Strong Energy Portfolio for a Strong America

Energy efficiency and clean, renewable energy will mean a stronger economy, a cleaner environment, and greater energy independence for America. Working with a wide array of state, community, industry, and university partners, the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy invests in a diverse portfolio of energy technologies.



U.S. Department of Energy

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Bringing you a prosperous future where energy is clean, abundant, reliable, and affordable

July 2006